

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 101549Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2049

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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EUCOM

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: IINT, PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJ: STUDENT DISTURBANCES

REF A) ANKARA 0314, B) IZMIR 09

1. AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF CONTINUING STUDENT UNREST, POLITICAL CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES GREW IN VIRULENCE DURING THE PAST WEEK. UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES ADMITTED THEIR INABILITY TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEM OF STUDENT UNREST AND PRESIDENT KORUTURK REPORTEDLY DECIDED TO CALL A MEETING OF POLITICAL LEADERS, MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY, AND UNIVERSITY RECTORS TO STUDY THE PROBLEM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

2. STUDENT VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN MANY PARTS OF TURKEY WITH INCIDENTS REPORTED ON JANUARY 15 FROM ELAZIG, BOLU, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND BATMAN (SIIRT PROVINCE). ON THE SAME DAY IN

ANKARA UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS FIRED ON A GROUP OF STUDENTS LEAVING CANKAYA LYCEE, INJURING FOUR, ONE SERIOUSLY. INASMUCH AS CANKAYA LYCEE IS ATTENDED BY CHILDREN OF ANY PARLIAMENTARIANS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THIS INCIDENT HAD A PARTICULARLY STRONG IMPACT. (FOLLOWING THIS INCIDENT, MEHMET ALI ARSAN, AN INDEPENDENT DEPUTY, WAS REPORTED BY THE PRESS TO HAVE SAID THAT IF HIS SON, A CANKAYA LYCEE STUDENT, HAD BEEN SHOT, HE WOULD HAVE PERSONALLY "PUT A BULLET INTO PRIMIN DEMIREL'S HEAD." ARSAN SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED THIS STATEMENT; HOWEVER, SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN OUT OF CHARACTER. HE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED BRADISHING A HAND GUN ON THE FLOOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LAST YEAR.) OVER THE WEEKEND, THERE WAS FURTHER NEWS OF STUDENT CLASHES AT REYHANLI LYCEE (HATAY PROVINCE) AND IN ISTANBUL, WHERE A GROUP OF "COMMANDOS" REPORTEDLY RAIDED A STUDENT HOSTEL, INJURING NINE STUDENTS. ALSO IN ISTANBUL OVER THE WEEKEND, A JOINT OPERATION OF THE TURKISH MILITARY'S NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION (MIT) AND THE TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE UNCOVERED THE HIDE-OUT OF AN ARMED GROUP OF LEFTIST MILITANTS. IN THE ENSUING CLASH ONE LEFTIST WAS KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED. WEAPONS, DYNAMITE AND LEFTIST PROPAGANDA WERE SEIZED. IN KONYA A POLICE SEARCH OF THE LOCAL BRANCH OF TOB-DER, THE LEFTIST TURKISH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, ALSO UNCOVERED WEAPONS (CLUBS, CHAINS, AND KNIVES, NOT FIREARMS) AND RESULTED IN A 17- DAY CLOSURE ORDER BY THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR.

3. KORUTURK'S REPORTED PLAN FOR A MEETING OF NATIONAL LEADERS WAS, ACCORDING TO SUNDAY'S MILLIYET, CHARACTERIZED AS "A LITTLE EARLY" BY AN UNNAMED SPOKESMAN FOR THE REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) WHO SUGGESTED SECURITY PROBLEMS SHOULD PROPERLY REMAIN A GOVERNMENT CONCERN. PICKING UP THIS THEME, UGUR MUMCU IN LEFTIST CUMHURİYET JANUARY 19 CLAIMED THAT KORUTURK'S CALL FOR A MEETING IN CANKAYA WAS INSPIRED BY PRIMIN DEMIREL AS A MEANS OF CIRCUMVENTING THE CONSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM OF RESOLVING GOVERNMENT CRISES BY A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN POWER.

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4. POLITICAL RHETORIC CONTINUED TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY BITTER. PRIMIN DEMIREL CALLED RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT A "CASTRO-IMITATOR" AND A "DRIFTING MINE READY TO EXPLODE." ACCORDING TO DEPUTY PRIMIN TURKES, "THERE IS NO (RPT NO) DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STALIN'S UNDERSTANDING OF DEMOCRACY AND THE UNDERSTANDING OF DEMOCRACY OF THAT HONORABLE MURDERER MR. ECEVIT." TURKES FURTHER DECLARED THAT "COMMUNIST MILITANTS AND RPP OFFICIALS ARE PRACTICALLY

IN ORGANIC COLLABORATION." REFERRING TO THE RECENT ARREST OF ARMED NAP SUPPORTERS IN IZMIR (REF B), TURKES CALLED THE JANDARMA COMMANDER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARRESTS "AN EXTREME LEFTIST AND ECEVIT SUPPORTERS." IN RETURN ECEVIT CHARACTERIZED TURKES AS "AN ADVENTURER WITH THE BLOOD OF COUNTLESS YOUNG PEOPLE ON HIS HANDS." ECEVIT MAINTAINED THAT THE "RPP WILL OVERCOME COMMUNISM, NOT WITH FASCISM, BUT WITH THE STRENGTH OF LIBERTARIAN DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE."

5. JOINING IN THE PUBLIC DEBATE OVER THE POSSIBLE IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW, RPP SENATOR MUHSIN BATUR (AIR FORCE COMMANDER WHEN DEMIREL WAS FORCED TO RESIGN IN THE MARCH 1971 "COUP BY MEMORANDUM") DECLARED, "IF THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO PROCLAIM MARTIAL LAW IT IS NOT (RPT NOT) NECESSARY TO USE THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, IT (THE GOVERNMENT) MUST MAKE THE DECISION ITSELF AND MUST FACE THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. IN THIS MANNER PROBLEMS SHOULD BE RESOLVED UNDER AN OPEN REGIME AND ACCORDING TO DEMOCRATIC RULES."

6. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, THE INTER-UNIVERSITY BOARD, A COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY RECTORS AND STATE ACADEMY PRESIDENTS, DECIDED IN

A JANUARY 18 MEETING THAT "EVERY UNIVERSITY'S COMPETENT ORGANS WOULD EVALUATE WHETHER OR NOT TO CONTINUE INSTRUCTION" IN LIGHT OF THE CONTINUING VIOLENCE. ALSO ON JANUARY 18, THE NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT'S BILL ON MEETINGS AND DEMONSTRATION MARCHES MADE A FURTHER STEP TOWARD BECOMING LAW WITH THE EXPIRATION OF THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR SENATE REVIEW OF THE ASSEMBLY-PASSED BILL. THE MEASURE MUST STILL GO BEFORE PRESIDENT KORUTURK WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO RETURN IT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. IF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IT SHOULD BE RETURNED AND REPASSED, THE MEASURE MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE. MACOMBER

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## Message Attributes

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